

EXTERMINATING A RACE TURKEY'S FOUL TASK

Blackest Page in Modern History—800,000 Armenians Already Destroyed
—The Able-Bodied Slain—The Helpless Driven Out to Die—Centennial Anniversary of American Bible Society—A Work That Blankets the World—Mexico Desolate.

By Southern Missionary News Bureau

Seven hundred years of oppression of the Armenians by the Turks has culminated in a determined effort to annihilate the Armenians utterly. For months the campaign has been waged with the most inhuman ferocity, and eight hundred thousand of these helpless, inoffensive people are said to have perished. And the end is not yet.

The able-bodied men have been first drafted into the army, though not permitted to bear arms, where they are said to have been brutally killed by thousands. The older men, the women and children are then forced out of their homes and driven away in vast throngs, to die in the desert of starvation and exposure or to be subjected to the most terrible tortures and indignities. An observer of these horrors is thus quoted in the American Board Bulletin:

"The worst and most unimaginable horrors were reserved for us at the banks of the Euphrates and in the Erzingian Plain. The mutilated bodies of women, girls and little children made everybody shudder. The landmen were doing all sorts of awful deeds to the women and girls that were with us, whose cries went up to heaven. At the Euphrates the bandmen and gendarmes threw into the river all the remaining children under fifteen years of age. Those that could swim were shot down as they struggled in the water. The fields and hillsides were dotted with swollen and blackened corpses that filled and fouled the air with their stench."

Why the rulers of Turkey should have set their hands to this foul task, no one can say with certainty. Fear of Armenian uprisings probably combined at first with Moslem bigotry and blood lust. The Armenians were the first nation to accept Christianity as their national faith and have remained true through hundreds of years of oppression and persecution.

The missionaries of the American Board are remaining at their posts, when permitted to do so, and are giving all the relief possible to the unfortunate victims.

Centennial Anniversary of American Bible Society.

Sunday, May 7, will mark the completion by the American Bible Society of one hundred years of notable history. During that time it has published and been largely instrumental in circulating 115,000,000 Scriptures in more than one hundred and fifty languages. It has made or assisted in eighty translations, being first to give the printed gospel to millions of people of many different tribes and races.

All Over the World.

The society has agents at work on five continents and in hundreds of islands—in all, fourteen hundred workers abroad and six hundred in the United States. There are few corners of the globe to which its agents and publications have not penetrated. It has collected and expended in this distinctive work of circulating the Bible, without note or comment, \$58,000,000.

Universal Bible Sunday.

In celebration of the society's hundredth anniversary, May 7 will be observed throughout the Christian world as Universal Bible Sunday. Programs and literature for the observance of the day will be furnished without charge by the New York office.

Mexico A Desolated Land.

A missionary who has just returned to Mexico writes from Saltillo: "Mexico looks to me like a large plant that has not had water for some time. All the railroad stations from Nuevo Laredo to Monterey, inclusive, have been burned. We must have seen the skeletons of hundreds of freight cars which have been burned, and also large railroad water tanks that have been dynamited. A large brewery was still standing near the station, and this brewery saved Monterey from being in ruins, for I am told the soldiers were too drunk to carry on the destruction of the city after having been at the brewery for a time.

"The situation has changed for the better since the Carranzistas have been here. Foodstuff is coming in from all sides although the prices are high. Church services well attended. They have not missed holding at least one service a week since we have been away from them."

The Gospel Getting Hold.

There are unmistakable evidences that the Gospel is getting hold upon the people. We can get a large audience every night and at almost any village in the province. School children come in crowds and learn two or three songs well in one evening, so that when they see us coming next time they are delighted and often begin singing the songs they learned at our former meeting.—Rev. A. P. Hassel, Takamatsu, Japan.

God's Kingdom First.

The following extract is from a recent letter to one of the mission boards:

"I have not yet finished paying for my home or enough land to call it a farm home. I have, on account of declining health, quit the practice of medicine, and so I have a private problem. But the whole thing is in the hands of God, and it is better that my personal problems go unsolved than that His kingdom be halted in the least by my unfaithfulness. I am sending a check for ten dollars and asking God to give light and help.

Constipation.

When constive or troubled with constipation take Chamberlain's Tablets. They are easy to take and most agreeable in effect. Obtainable everywhere.

Swift's Sarcasm.

"My brethren," said Dean Swift in a sermon, "there are three sorts of pride—of riches, of birth and of talents. I shall not now speak of the latter, none of you being liable to that abominable vice."

FLORIDA PRESS LAWS SHOULD BE AMENDED

Plans Laid Out by South Florida Press Association.

At the meeting of the South Florida Press Association held at Bartow, Jan. 14th, 1916, I was appointed a committee of one to urge upon your attention and also upon the attention of the State Press Association and all subsidiary associations the importance of active efforts to secure legislation to relieve the newspapers of some of the restrictions, burdens and disadvantages now imposed upon them.

Below are the suggestions adopted by the South Florida Association, which you are urged to present personally to the candidates for the legislature in your county and also to the press association of which you may be a member:

1. The injustice of the present libel law arises from the wording of Section 13 of the Bill of Rights of the State Constitution. The words "good motives" should be stricken out, and to this end a constitutional amendment should be submitted.

2. A law should be passed to permit newspapers to publish any matters contained in the public records of town, city, county or state and forbidding the taking of any legal action, civil or criminal, against editors or owners of newspapers publishing such records—unless it can be clearly shown that the publication thereof was prompted by malice.

3. There should be a law to prohibit the publication of legal notices of any kind in newspapers that have not been established at least one year or in any that are not printed wholly within the county. "Patent" pages cut advertising rates below cost.

4. All town, city, county and state officials should be required by law to buy all their blank books and printed stationery for their offices from Florida printing concerns, if such supplies can be furnished by Florida printers.

5. The Bryan primary law should be so amended as to give the newspapers fair returns for political advertising. Every candidate for State or Federal office should be allowed to spend for advertising in newspapers as much as \$100.00 in each daily and \$25.00 in each weekly.

6. The fee for publishing the laws passed by each legislature should be increased from \$100.00 to \$250.00. You know that \$100.00 does not cover the actual expense of this work; and, as the publication is made only once in two years, \$250.00 for one paper in each county would not be a heavy expense upon the state.

7. An itemized list of all bills, accounts and claims ordered paid by the county commissioners of each county should be published in one or more newspapers of each county. This publicity would greatly aid in eliminating any graft that might be going on and would prove a protection to the taxpayer. For this service, the usual legal rate should be allowed.

Both the newspapers and the public need legislation embodying the above suggestions, and it is sincerely hoped that you will personally exert yourself to accomplish the results desired. Do not content yourself with merely adopting formal resolutions, but "get busy" with your candidates for the legislature.

With best wishes,
Fraternalty yours,
A. P. JORDAN, Committee.

Reappearance of Quail Disease.

Owing to the prevalence of quail disease among quail imported from Mexico at the ports of New York, N. Y., and Eagle Pass, Tex., during the past month, the department of agriculture has suspended issue of further permits for entry of these birds this season. Quail in shipments actually en route to the United States on January 20 were admitted to quarantine, but no further entries will be authorized. Most of the States now have such stringent game laws that it is practically impossible to purchase quail even for propagating purposes in the United States, and dealers have sought quail elsewhere, especially in northwestern Mexico where quail occur in abundance, but Mexican quail on arrival at destination are frequently found infected with quail disease. So fatal is this disease that when it once appears most of the birds which are exposed to it die within a few days. In one shipment of 196 quail which recently reached New York only three birds survived the voyage, and in another of about 160 birds more than two-thirds of the number died shortly after arrival. More than one-third of all the Mexican quail imported last year died within a few months. To guard against spread of quail disease, live quail purchased for propagation should be kept under observation for two or three weeks and should not be liberated if infected with disease. The department desires to ascertain the result of experiments which have been made in importing quail this year and will be glad to receive information as to the condition of the birds and as to how many have died in any locality where the quail have been introduced.

Before next season the department will hold a public hearing in Washington, D. C., for the purpose of determining whether or not further permits for importation of quail from Mexico will be issued, at which various questions connected with the importation of quail will be carefully considered. Ample notice of this hearing will be given later in order that those who are interested may arrange to be present or to submit written statements.

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FLASHES FROM FLOYD

C. H. B. Floyd

For Secretary of War: Foster of Florida.

Jones: I hope Lambright forwards the President the article that appeared here several weeks before Garrison's desertion of his Chief, in which it was suggested that the President remove Garrison and appoint Foster, who would get preparedness, it was stated.

Steinmetz: And call the attention of Wilson to the date of the publication. Our friend Floyd is clairvoyant and clairaudient and sub-consciously sensed the coming separation of Garrison who has Presidential aspirations. Foster is a great man and his chief characteristics is knowledge of men and back of this is a truly terrible enemy proceeding from a 2-400 horse power six-cylinder silent engine, and at the steering wheel back of this energy is a purpose that is delicate but unchangeable. The great man is like that marvelous microscopic cell which with assurance and success at once begins to draw upon its environment for its needs, until in a few months the universe of cells in which it became fertilized, is dominated by this lot of protoplasm the great man finds himself, say, at St. Augustine he discovers that he is but a microscopic dot: a municipal judge of a little tourist town or something; this littleness is not agreeable; with assurance and success he begins to draw upon his surroundings for his needs, until in a short period of time, perhaps not longer than two decades, the State in which he reached his majority, becomes dominated for a while by the growth of this dot of marvelous protoplasm.

Jones: Yes; true; Florida for a few days is feeling slightly dizzy and unsettled with this dot of marvelous protoplasm about the size physically of William H. Taft. Catts and Wall and Bryan and Knott and Farris and Trammell and McMillan and Crooke and Snarkman and Bonner and Stupkie must feel slightly nauseated at how General Foster for a half hour dominated the attention of his parent organism of Florida. Great is Florida!

Steinmetz, *Quoted with permission.*
—Tampa Tribune.

Early Sweet Potatoes Bring Good Price.

Early summer sweet potatoes do not yield as much as the fall crop, but the increased price will usually make up for any deficiency in bushels. A. P. Spencer, district agent for the University of Florida Extension Division, gives two ways in which plants for the early crop may be obtained. In the first place the potatoes are planted in a seed bed during February or early March.

It will be necessary to hurry the potatoes so that slips may be had for planting early in April. To do this put a layer of stable manure four inches deep over the bed, cover this with two inches of earth. Lay the potatoes on this as closely as possible without allowing them to touch each other. Cover the potatoes with a thin layer of pine straw. Then barely cover the whole with earth. Protect the bed from cold winds and provide shelter during cold nights. Keep the bed sprinkled, but do not drown the heat of the manure. When slips are large enough plant them immediately in the field. Do not attempt to make cuttings from the vines if a crop is to be made from them.

The second way to obtain an early crop is to plant the sweet potato just as the Irish potato. Cut the potatoes in pieces and plant about two inches deep in gray sandy loam. They may be planted out in South Florida about March 20 and in North Florida about April 10. The warmer the location the faster the potatoes will grow.

Either of these methods will probably produce potatoes by July. Keep them well tilled and growing well, because the first man to reach the market will get the best price. There should be no trouble in selling them because Irish potatoes will probably be high and they are the nearest substitutes. The Triumph or Big Stem Jersey will give an early crop.—Agricultural News Service.

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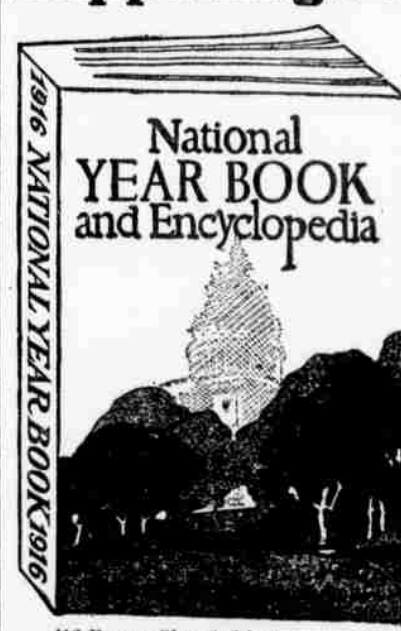
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